HLS 16RS-2502 ORIGINAL

2016 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY REPRESENTATIVE MORENO

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences of the legislature upon the death of Will Smith, former defensive end for the New Orleans Saints

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Will Smith, former defensive
3	end for the New Orleans Saints.
4	WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Legislature of
5	Louisiana has learned of the tragic and untimely passing of Will Smith on Saturday, April
6	9, 2016, at the age of thirty-four; and
7	WHEREAS, Will Smith was born in Queens, New York; showing his exceptional
8	athletic talent at a young age, Mr. Smith was named a USA Today All-American and earned
9	a scholarship offer from Ohio State University; and
10	WHEREAS, he started for the Buckeyes' 2002 national championship team and was
11	voted a team captain for the 2003 team that won the Fiesta Bowl; and
12	WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was selected in the first round of the 2004 NFL Draft by the
13	New Orleans Saints; and
14	WHEREAS, he was voted a team captain for the Saints five times; he exhibited
15	tremendous technique and tenacity as number 91 on the Saints football team; he was an
16	eight-year starter, and he finished his career as the Saints' fourth all-time sack leader with
17	67.5 total sacks; and
18	WHEREAS, he will forever be remembered as one of the best defenders in Saints
19	history; he was a Pro Bowl player in 2006 and considered by many to be the dominant
20	defensive lineman on the 2009 Super Bowl Championship team; and

1	WHEREAS, Mr. Smith was a proud Louisianan, and he made New Orleans his home
2	after his retirement from football; he was greatly respected for his work in the community
3	and was heavily involved with his foundation, "Where There's a Will There's a Way"; and
4	WHEREAS, the tragic loss of Will Smith is magnified by the fact that we are only
5	left to imagine the contributions he might have made to his fellow citizens had his life not
6	been so untimely ended; and
7	WHEREAS, Will Smith deserves honor and recognition and a sincere measure of
8	posthumous gratitude for the great joy he brought to his family, friends, teammates, coaches,
9	and countless fans; and
10	WHEREAS, Mr. Smith's survivors include his wife, Racquel, and his children; and
11	WHEREAS, although the passing of Will Smith has left a tremendous void in his
12	community and in the state of Louisiana, his memory shall live forever in the minds and
13	hearts of all who knew and loved him and whose lives were touched by this phenomenal
14	athlete and gentleman.
15	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16	express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the untimely and tragic passing of Will
17	Smith, former defensive end for the New Orleans Saints; does hereby recognize his
18	outstanding achievements and singular contributions; does hereby record for posterity his
19	extraordinary gifts and talents both on and off the football field; and does hereby extend
20	enduring appreciation for his legacy that will forever be a source of great pride for his
21	family, friends, the New Orleans Saints, the city of New Orleans, and the entire state of
22	Louisiana.
23	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
24	to the family of Will Smith.

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 63 Original

2016 Regular Session

Moreno

Expresses the condolences of the legislature upon the death of Will Smith, former defensive end for the New Orleans Saints.